

CCS HS HCS SS SCS SB 555 -- ELECTRICITY FOR SMELTING FACILITIES

This bill allows certain aluminum smelting facilities to purchase electrical power on the open market without regulation by the Public Service Commission. To be eligible, the facility must be in a county of the second classification, must have used more than three million megawatt hours of electricity in a calendar year, and must have been served by a municipally owned utility and an electric generating cooperative owned by rural electric cooperatives. The initial unregulated contract must not have a negative financial impact on previous power suppliers or their customers, reduce service reliability to other customers, or reduce local or state tax revenue. The smelting facility cannot resell the power to anyone except the original suppliers. Local or past suppliers of electrical power will no longer have any obligation to provide service to the facility.

The bill also allows municipalities to purchase electricity and ancillary services from any supplier without regulation beyond the approval of the governing board of the municipality.

The bill contains an emergency clause.